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EASTERN EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCER

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6 Nov. 1972Yugoslav Purge Rolls On Despite Morale Problems

The US Embassy has reported that the immediate effect in Belgrade of Tito's purge of popular Serb party leaders has been shock, apprehension and some anger. The resignations of Koca Popovic, from the state presidency, and of Foreign Minister Tepavac, seem clearly related to their disagreement with Tito's tightening of party discipline. Belgrade's atmosphere is now gloomy. Western European press reports of a "little cultural revolution" in Yugoslavia have been hotly denied by regime spokesmen who also dismissed them as an attempt to deflect the LCY from necessary tasks. There have been signs of disagreement in the diplomatic service--the most critical to date being a Yugoslav Embassy official in Moscow who spoke regretfully of Tito's excellent health. Tito so far appears ready to accept these negative morale factors as a necessary evil and is giving no sign of easing pressure on his opponents.

As for the impact of the purge outside of Serbia, there appears to be little new. No information is available on the plenums in Vojvodina and Kosovo that took place late last week. The Croat party has set 15 November as its plenum date and changes are possible in Zagreb, even though the Croat party was purged earlier this year.

The youth organization in Croatia, which has failed to produce significant gains in winning over support for the new leadership imposed by Tito last December, also is a prime candidate for a shakeup.

A Slovene party plenum on Friday was addressed by Stane Dolanc, head of the LCY executive bureau and the prime mover in implementing Tito's purge. Dolanc said the resignations in Slovenia were necessary because other regions of Yugoslavia looked to Ljubljana as an example in purging "right wing diversionists." Dolanc likened the present situation to 1948 when Tito broke with Stalin, and said the purge was an attempt to avoid a new form of Stalinism in Yugoslavia.

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25X1 Last Friday representatives from the media met to discuss their new responsibilities vis-a-vis the new situation in Yugoslav domestic politics. The head of the journalists' federation demanded that the party's policies must become the "alpha and omega of all opinions and journalistic expressions." He called for the elimination of all "alien bodies" opposing the party line. Two important editors, Aleksandar Nenadovic from Politika and Frane Barbierri from the influential weekly NIN, have already resigned and more changes seem likely. The program committee for Yugoslav television also weighed in with self-critical remarks on regional isolationism, petty bourgeois liberalism and poor objectivity. The committee indicated that in the future it would exercise greater control over the uniformity of television news programs. 25X1

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#### Ceausescu's Maneuverings in Luxembourg

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25X1 [REDACTED] Toward the end of Ceausescu's 27-28 October visit to Luxembourg, the Romanians presented their hosts with the "Declaration of Principles."

Luxembourg agreed to sign the document only after the Romanians insisted they were seeking a maximum of bilateral declarations prior to CSCE as tools against the Brezhnev doctrine. Six principles of the original thirteen in the Romanian draft were in fact aimed at the Brezhnev doctrine. Ceausescu, in an effort to overcome Luxembourg's objections to the wording of the declarations, personally reiterated several times the importance his country attaches to CSCE.

25X1 During the visit, the Romanians expressed a preference for a full fledged treaty as the end result of CSCE, but said it is more realistic to expect some sort of declaration of principles on state-to-state relations to emerge. It is apparently with this in mind and in effort to surface some of their ideas on the subject, that the declaration was proposed.

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#### Brezhnev to Budapest

The Soviet party leader will begin a six-day visit to Hungary on 25 November. 25X1

[REDACTED] The visit, which was earlier rumored for late September, is technically a return of Kadar's

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early-February trip to Moscow and will be the occasion for a fulsome reaffirmation of Soviet-Hungarian cooperation, especially in various economic fields where difficulties and frictions have developed. Budapest likely has done its best to solve Soviet unhappiness over the immediate issues, but the two sides continue to approach economic issues from different perspectives.

The timing of Brezhnev's exceptionally lengthy stay in Budapest may indicate that he will be the guest of honor at an upcoming Hungarian party central committee session, slated to review developments since the last party congress in late 1970. This "mid-term" conference, mentioned by Kadar in late spring but not yet publicly scheduled, is likely set for the near future and undoubtedly will focus on economic performance and ways to improve it. While the shortcomings and successes of the economic scene will be freely admitted we would not look for any serious debate of the economic reform structure (NEM). Rather, much of the talk might well dwell on such specifics as consumer prices, production costs, and family assistance programs as they relate to "improving the lot of the working class." Along this line, Brezhnev's words will be closely scrutinized by his Hungarian audiences for hints of Moscow's view of the Hungarian scene. We would expect the Soviet leader to extol bilateral and CEMA cooperation and generally praise Hungarian economic development, with perhaps didactic (and implicitly critical) references to Budapest's progress in overcoming such "negative" phenomena as profiteering and "selfishness."

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#### Bulgarian Leaders to Moscow in Mid-November

Party boss Todor Zhivkov will lead a party-state delegation to Moscow in mid-November, according to a 4 November press announcement. Public acknowledgement of Zhivkov's travel plans explains the recent spate of rumors in Sofia of a pending Zhivkov-Brezhnev meeting. A Soviet press announcement the same day set the visit for 13-18 November. In a related development, the Embassy also reports rumors that Bulgarian Foreign minister Mladenov's visit to Turkey has been postponed from mid-November to December as a result of Bulgaria's stepped up intrabloc contacts which includes Polish party chief Gierek and Premier Jaroszewicz's trip to Sofia beginning on Friday.

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Sofia Sentences Hijackers

A Bulgarian court has sentenced to three years imprisonment three men who hijacked a Turkish airliner to Bulgaria last May. The court action follows by two weeks the most recent hijacking of a Turkish airliner by four armed men who forced the craft to land in the Bulgarian capital. The swift action in bringing the three men to trial appears designed to do two things. First, to discourage would-be hijackers from seeking refuge in Bulgaria, and second, to reassure Ankara of Sofia's good intentions at a time when Bulgarians are interested in improving bilateral relations.

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